

[  
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

1 <sup>1</sup>  
2 ~~26~~. (Amended) A camera comprising:  
3 a sensor configured to capture an image and generate a sensor output  
4 signal representing the captured image;  
5 an amplifier coupled to receive the sensor output signal, wherein the  
6 amplifier [has controls] is configured to apply multiple gain levels to the  
7 sensor output signal; and  
8 a processor coupled to the amplifier, wherein the processor is  
9 configured to provide a control signal to the amplifier to adjust the gain  
[level] levels applied by the amplifier.

1 <sup>10</sup>  
2 ~~25~~. (Amended) The camera of claim <sup>9</sup>~~24~~ wherein the processor  
3 increases the gain [level] levels in dark portions of the captured image and the  
4 processor decreases the gain [level] levels in bright portions of the captured  
5 image.

1 <sup>11</sup>  
2 ~~42~~. (Amended) A method for enhancing the dynamic range of a  
3 sensor output signal representing a captured image, the method comprising  
4 the steps of:  
5 amplifying the sensor output signal in response to gain settings  
6 contained in a gain map, wherein each gain setting is associated with a  
7 particular region of the captured image; and  
8 updating the gain settings contained in the gain map in response to  
changes in [of] the sensor output signal.